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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/075,764	02/15/2002	Takayuki Yamada	1509.1016	9489

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EXAMINER

PRASAD, CHANDRIKA

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2839

DATE MAILED: 04/10/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/075,764

Applicant(s)

YAMADA, TAKAYUKI

Examiner

Chandrika Prasad

Art Unit

2839

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 March 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☒ The proposed drawing correction filed on 14 March 2003 is: a) ☒ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. The reply filed on 03/14/03 consists of amendments to claims 1, 3-9, addition of new claims 11-15, changes in the drawings & specification and remarks related to rejection of claims.

Claim Objections

2. Claims 3 and 14-15 are objected to because of the following informalities:

- Claim 3, line 2: One of the "said" should be deleted.
- Claim 14, line 2: A comma (,) should be inserted between "member" and "and".
- Claim 14, line 3: "diameter" should be changed to -- diameters as that --.
- Claim 15, line 3: "parts" should be changed to -- part --.
- Claim 15, line 11: "L"s should be enclosed within parenthesis.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

4. Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Claim 14 recites a coil spring, which is in addition to an elastic member recited in Claim 1. Claim 14 depends on Claim 13, which depends on Claim 1.

5. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

6. Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.
7. Claim 15 recites the limitation "the press member " in line 14. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

8. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

9. Claims 1- 7 and 11-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Barabi et al.

Barabi (Figures 1-14) shows a socket 11 for an electrical part having a plurality of contact pins 19 with contact tips at both ends wherein the socket has a socket body with a

lower plate (not numbered) and an upper plate 17 disposed on the top of the lower plate. The upper plate has a platform 25 with a guide portion. The upper plate 17 and the platform 25 as well as the contact tips are detachable and can be replaced by another having a different size or shape. The contact pin has a first plunger 63 and a second plunger 65 disposed in a tubular member 51 with a coil spring 53 between the plungers. The pin has a contact portion at the bottom and top, which can contact a land-shaped terminal. The pin has a contact portion at the top with a plurality of V-shaped grooves forming a plurality of mount-shaped portions for engaging a terminal with a solder ball. The lower plate, the upper plate and the platform have a plurality of holes for receiving the pins 19. The platform is detachably mounted on the upper plate and has guides for guiding a peripheral edge of the electrical part 41 with terminals 43 to be mounted. The first plunger electrically connects to the terminal 43 of the electrical part and the second plunger electrically connects to a circuit board (not shown).

An end portion of the tubular member detachably engages the first plunger and a portion slidably contacts both the plungers. The plate 17 and platform 25 can be replaced with another with a different height. The holes in the upper plates and the lower plate have equal pitches and each of the contacts extend through these holes. The first plunger as well as the second plunger has a stopper portion, which abuts a stepped portion in the hole in the upper plate 17 and the lower plate to prevent the plungers from coming out of the holes.

Barabi further shows a method of assembling such a socket (see Claims 7-16). Barabi (Figure 2B) shows a press-in amount [the distance between the seating (upper) portion of the plate 17 and the lower portion of the electrical part 41 when the electrical

part 41 is mounted on the contact pins and an external force is not applied on the electrical part by a press member]. This press-in amount becomes a predetermined amount depending upon the height of the central portion of the platform 25 selected. The platform can be replaced by another having a different height, thus providing a different predetermined press-in amount.

10. Claims 8-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Fredrickson et al.

Fredrickson (Figures 3a-3b) shows a socket for an electrical part having a socket body with a plurality of pins 340 for connecting the electrical part to a circuit board 210. The pins are received in a plurality of through holes in an upper plate 320 and a lower plate 310 wherein the plurality of holes in the lower plate 310 are formed in an arrangement wider than that of plurality of holes in the upper plate. The upper plate has a guide portion for guiding the electrical part to be mounted on the upper plate.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

11. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

12. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fredrickson et al. in view of Barabi et al.

Fredrickson shows all the features of this claim as described in Paragraph 10 above except the guide portion being detachable. Barabi shows such a feature as described in

Paragraph 9 above. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the instant invention to provide such a feature to Fredrickson's socket because this would provide a pre-selected press-in amount as described in Paragraph 9 above.

Response to Arguments

13. Applicant's arguments filed 03/14/03 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Barabi shows an end (top) portion detachably engaging the first plunger (movable with respect to each other), and a portion slidably contacting with both first and second plungers. Barabi (Figs. 3A-3B) shows the contact pin in an assembled configuration. It is obvious that either portion 21 or portion 63 has to be separable in order to form the contact pin as shown in these figures. Applicant's arguments regarding claim 3 is not supported by claim language. Claim 3 has nothing to do with the number of holes in the upper and lower plates or the size of the areas in which the holes are formed. Barabi shows the first plunger with different replaceable configuration. With regards to claims 11-14, Barabi's platform 25 can be changed to the one having a different height of the seating portion to accommodate different size electrical parts.

Conclusion

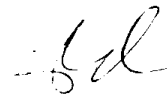
14. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until

after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Contact Information

15. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chandrika Prasad whose telephone number is (703) 308-0977. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn Feild, can be reached at (703) 308-2710. The fax number for this Group is (703) 872-9318 (general) and (703) 872-9319 for after-final. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or processing should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1782.



Chandrika Prasad
Patent examiner
April 8, 2003